


REMARKS AND ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

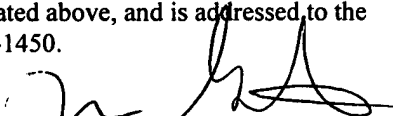
RUMPF ET AL-4

By: 
Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 26,048
Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg. No. 29,298
Attorneys for Applicant

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, NY 11576
(516) 365-9802

Express Mail No.: **US 992014348US**
Date of Deposit : October 3, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.


Maria Guastella

R:\Patents\R\RUMPF ET AL-4\preliminary.amendment.wpd